



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish;
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ALLIUM SIMILLIMUM **DWARF ONION**

Dwarf Onion is a small perennial only 1-2 cm above the ground, arising from solitary, egg-shaped bulbs with brown or gray honeycombed coats. The 2 sickle-shaped leaves are 2-5 mm wide, more than twice as long as the stem, concave in cross-section, and arise from near the base of the stem. Few to several flowers are borne on stalks that are 4-8 mm long, in a hemispherical inflorescence subtended by 2 papery, elliptic bracts at the top of the slightly flattened stem. Each flower has 6 lance-shaped, white and green to pink-colored, petal-like tepals that are 5-9 mm long, and 6 stamens that are shorter than the tepals. The ovary has 3 rounded crests on top. Flowering in June-July

This species is distinguished from *ALLIUM PARVUM* by the rounded stem, and from *A. BRANDEGEI* by leaves that are more than twice the length of the stem.